

promise between the ideal and the practical. If a man does not have an ideal and try to live up to it, then he becomes a mean, base and sordid creature, no matter how successful. If, on the other hand, he does not work practically, with the knowledge that he is in the world of actual men and must get results, he becomes a worthless head-in-the-air creature, a nuisance to himself and to everybody else.

"My chief knowledge of the working out of this theory is in politics. From the time I was elected to the Legislature in 1881 until 1911, when it became evident that I would have to part company with the Eepublican organization, I steadily strove to be loyal to my ideals and yet to strive to realize them in practical fashion. I always tried to administer each office well. I never did one thing personally that was not as straight as a string; and, where I had to work with other men, I tried my best to get the common results of as high a quality as possible, without insisting upon so much that it would mean a break-up with my associates.

On a big scale I handle things just as I tried to handle them on a smaller scale as regards Father Zahm and Sigg and Fiala and our Brazilian friends on our trip.

"I was on the whole successful. When, after the Spanish War, I got to a position of such importance that a good deal of consideration had to be paid me, I was very successful ; and, as President, I was able to do a great deal that I wished to do. This was done merely because I utilized the reformers without letting them grow perfectly

wild-eyed;
and I yet kept in some kind of relations with
the machine
men, so as to be on a living basis with them,
although I had
to thwart them at every turn. But, when I got
back from
Africa, I found that everything had split. Taft
had thrown
in his lot with the sordid machine crowd, as
had most of
my former efficient political supporters. On
the other
hand, the reformers of the type of-had begun
to
run wild and to associate with a set of so-
called reformers,
who came dangerously near the mark of
lunacy. I spent
eighteen months in the vain effort to get them
together on
some kind of a basis that would permit of
efficient joint ac-